

**Queen Anne's County
Historic Site Summary Sheet**

Survey No: QA-502
Name: Rhodes Farm
Location: 130 Bennett's Outlet Lane, Queenstown, MD
Date: 1830's
Access: Private

Description:

Two-story, side-gabled building on a brick foundation with a later rear wing that forms a "T" shape. A hipped-roof front porch extends across the full width of the house and is supported by six square wooden posts with decorative wooden brackets. The front door has a four-light transom and three-light sidelights. The rear wing is also two stories, although its roof ridge is under the cornice of the original building. There are three historic outbuildings associated with this property: two barns and a smokehouse.

Significance:

The Rhodes Farm remains a working farm, growing wheat, corn, barley, and soy beans. The smokehouse is still used to smoke meat, and the barns currently are used to store farm equipment. The house has undergone few modernizing alterations. It has been clad in aluminum siding that resembles what was probably its original drop siding. The farm demonstrates nineteenth-century farm practices. The house is a good example of rural domestic architecture. It is recommended that the Rhodes Farm be considered eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places and the Maryland Inventory of Historic Places under Criteria A and C.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

Eligibility Recommended ☒

Eligibility Not Recommended ☐

Comments:

*Eligible under A&C - 19th C farm
practices & architecture*

Reviewer, OPS:

Al Bruden

Date:

10/8/98

Reviewer, NR Program:

P. Kuntz

Date:

12/18/98

gms

**Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. QA-502

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☒ no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Rhodes Farm

2. Location

street & number 130 Bennett's Outlet Lane ☐ not for publication

city, town Queenstown ☒ vicinity of congressional district

state Maryland county Queen Anne's

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name J. Thomas Rhodes

street & number 130 Bennett's Outlet Lane telephone no.:

city, town Queenstown state and zip code Maryland 21658

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Queen Anne's County Registry of Deeds liber WMW 244

street & number folio 396

city, town Centreville state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title N/A

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. QA-502

Condition

☐ excellent
☐ good
☐ fair

Check one

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

☐ unaltered
☐ altered

Check one

☐ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Rhodes Farm is located at the end of a long driveway on the south side of U. S. Route 50 in Queen Anne's County on Maryland's Eastern Shore. The house and its outbuildings are nestled in 261 acres of farmland.

The main house is a two-story, side-gabled building on a brick foundation with a later rear wing that forms a "T" shape. The roof is clad in standing-seam metal. There are two interior brick chimneys with corbelled caps at each end of the main block. The house is five bays wide and is clad in aluminum siding. Windows are six-over-six, double-hung sash. Louvered shutters flank each window. A hipped roof porch on brick piers extends across the full width of the house. The porch roof is supported by six square wooden posts with decorative wooden brackets. The front door has a four-light transom and three-light sidelights. The door has wood paneling in the bottom and glazing in the top half. The west elevation has one six-over-six, double-hung sash window on each floor asymmetrically placed at the southwest corner. There are two two-over-two, double-hung sash windows in the gables on each end. There are no other openings on the east elevation of the main block.

The rear wing is also two stories. Its roof ridge is immediately beneath the cornice of the main block. The wing is four bays long by one bay wide. The roof is clad in standing-seam metal. There is a tall brick interior chimney at the center ridge line. The windows are six-over-six, double-hung sash, and on the west elevation, are flanked by louvered shutters. There are no shutters at the windows on the east elevation. There are two entrances, one at each end on the west side of this wing. The entrance closest to the main block of the house is covered by a bracketed pediment; the other by a shed-roof supported on square posts. The stoops are brick. The south elevation has two six-light casement windows. There is a crawl space under the wing.

Attached to the east side of the rear wing, and extending the full length of the wing is a second wing. This wing is one-story with a hipped roof that is clad in standing-seam metal. It has two six-over-six, double-hung sash windows on the east elevation. Tucked into the "L" formed by the main block and the rear wing is a screened porch.

There are three historic outbuildings associated with this property: closest to the house at the rear is a smokehouse with a front-gabled roof clad in standing-seam metal. The building itself is constructed of horizontal weatherboard and is supported on wood piers with concrete blocks added to increase the support. It has two vertical plank doors attached with strap hinges. West of the house are two historic barns. The smaller barn has a front-gabled roof clad in standing-seam metal. Attached to the main part of the barn on the west is a corn crib. Two new canopies have replaced the former canopies on each side of the barn. There is a vertical plank door on strap hinges on the east side of the building. Over the entrance is a hayloft door. A third, uncovered opening is located in the corn crib. The larger barn is constructed of vertical weatherboard also. It has a front-gabled roof that is clad in corrugated metal. Centered at the ridge is a vent. The front elevation has an entry into the barn, and above it, a hayloft door. Five wood-covered openings are located on each side of the barn. (See Continuation Sheet)

QA-502
Rhodes Farm
Queenstown, MD 21658

Continuation Sheet 7.1
Description

There are three other modern corrugated metal sheds and garages on the property also. These do not contribute to the significance of the farm. A large chicken house west of the main house and barns and a wood shed next to the smokehouse were demolished prior to the January 13, 1998, site visit.

8. Significance

Survey No. QA-502

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates ca. 1830s **Builder/Architect** Unknown

check: Applicable Criteria: ☒ A ☒ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Rhodes Farm, constructed ca. 1830s, is associated with the period of Agricultural - Industrial Transition (A.D. 1815-1870), and the themes of Agriculture and Architecture. The Rhodes Farm has been evaluated under National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) Criteria A, B, and C to determine its eligibility for listing in the NRHP and the Maryland Inventory of Historic Places (MIHP). The Rhodes Farm is still a working farm, growing wheat, corn, barley, and soy beans. Although there are no longer farm animals housed in the barns, the barns are well maintained and used for storing farm equipment. Unlike historic smokehouses on many farms, which are currently used for storage, the Rhodes smokehouse is still used to smoke meat. The farm house has undergone few modernizing alterations. The rear wings are historic additions in themselves. The aluminum siding is complementary and resembles what was probably the original drop siding. The Rhodes Farm can demonstrate nineteenth-century farm layout and practices. The house is a good example of nineteenth-century rural architecture. It is, therefore, recommended that the Rhodes Farm is eligible for listing in the NRHP and the MIHP under Criteria A and C for its association with the development of agriculture on Maryland's Eastern Shore and for its architectural qualities.

The Rhodes Farm is situated to the southeast of Queenstown on the road leading to Wye Mills and points further south. Queenstown served as the seat of Queen Anne's County from 1706 until 1782 when Centreville was chosen as county seat. Queenstown, however, continued to be an important center for local trade during the nineteenth century. Rhodes Farm was constructed during the period of Agricultural - Industrial Transition (A.D. 1815-1870), during which the economy of Queen Anne's County was based primarily on agricultural goods, such as grains. Farming methods were being improved by 1820s through the use of fertilizers and crop rotation. Local agricultural products were transported to market at Baltimore via steamboat which operated from Queenstown beginning in 1820. Although plans for a railroad on the eastern shore of Maryland were made during the 1830s, they were not realized until after the Civil War, and no line serviced the project area vicinity until 1896 (Wesler et al. 1981).

The Rhodes Farm has remained within the same family since its construction and been in operation continuously. William W. Rhodes, the great grandfather of the present owner, J. Thomas Rhodes, is depicted on the 1877 Atlas for Queen Anne's County (see attached map). (see Continuation Sheet)

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Rhodes Farm
Queenstown, MD 21658

Continuation Sheet 8.1
Significance

The Rhodes Farm remains a working farm, growing wheat, corn, barley, and soy beans. The smokehouse is still used to smoke meat, and the barns currently are used to store farm equipment. The house has undergone few modernizing alterations. It has been clad in aluminum siding that resembles what was probably its original drop siding. The farm demonstrates nineteenth-century farm practices. The house is a good example of rural domestic architecture. It is recommended that the Rhodes Farm be considered eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places and the Maryland Inventory of Historic Places

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. QA-502

Maryland Historical Trust

1992 Maryland Supplement to National Register Bulletin 16A, MHT, Crownsville, MD.

Rhodes, J. Thomas

1998 Personal Communication with A. Crampton & M. Pappas, January 1998.

Wesler, Kit W., et al.

1981 The M/DOT Archeol. Resources Survey, Vol. 1: Eastern Shore. MHT, Manusc. Ser. 5

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 26 acres

Quadrangle name Queenstown

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundary to include entire legal parcel according to National Register Guidelines (see attached map).

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

Alice C. Crampton, Senior Historian/Architectural Historian
name/title Madeleine Pappas, Historian

organization Parsons Engineering Science, Inc.

date January 27, 1998

street & number 10521 Rosehaven Street

telephone (703) 591-7575

city or town Fairfax

state VA

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DHCP/DHCD
100 COMMUNITY PLACE
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023
514-7600

QA-502
Rhodes Farm
Queenstown, MD 21658

HISTORIC CONTEXT

**MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN
DATA**

Geographic Organization: Eastern Shore (Queen Anne's County)

Chronological/Developmental Period: Agricultural-Industrial Transition
(1815-1870 A. D.)

Prehistoric/Historic Period Themes: Agriculture; Architecture

Resource Type

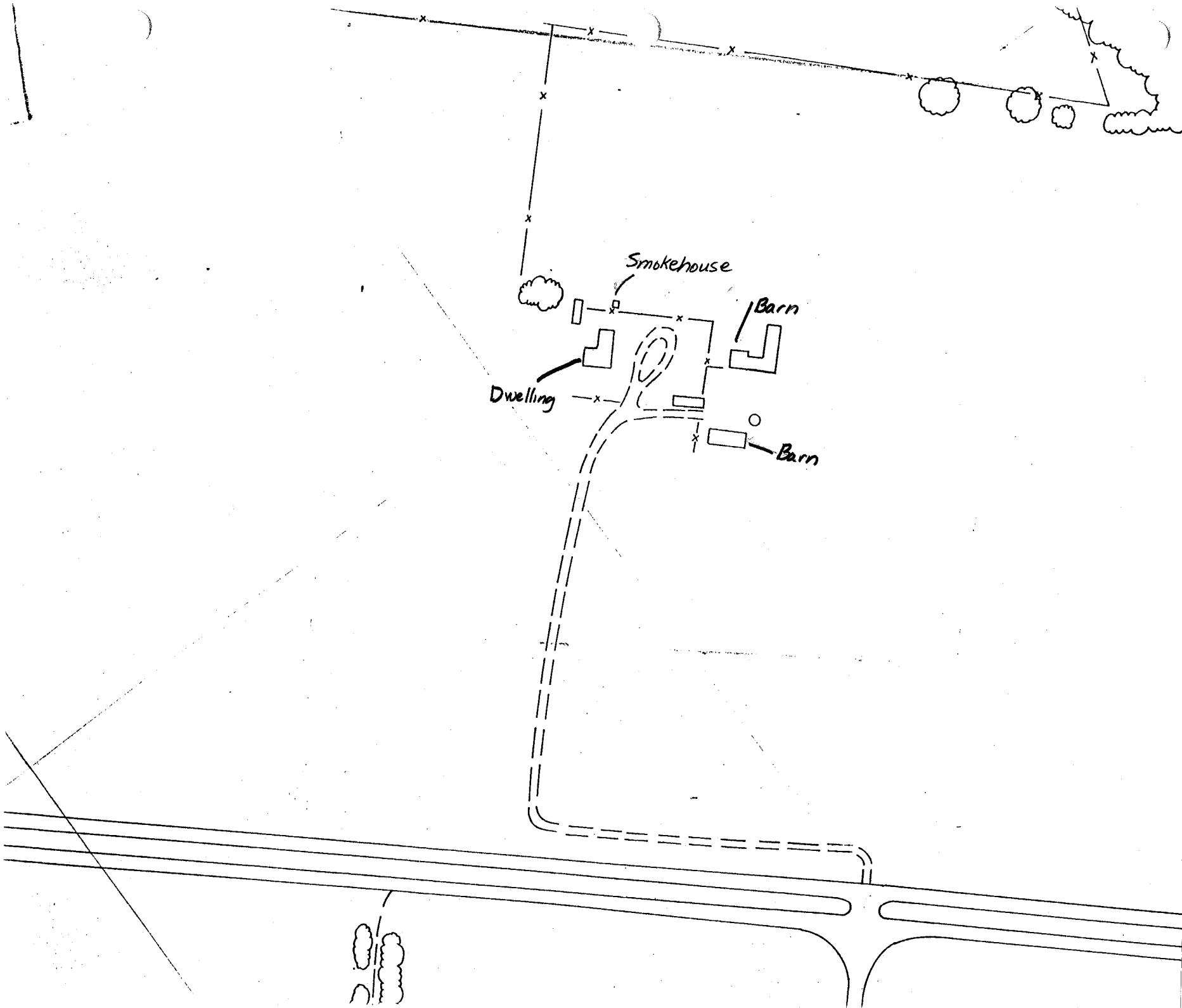
Category: Building(s)

Historic Environment: Rural

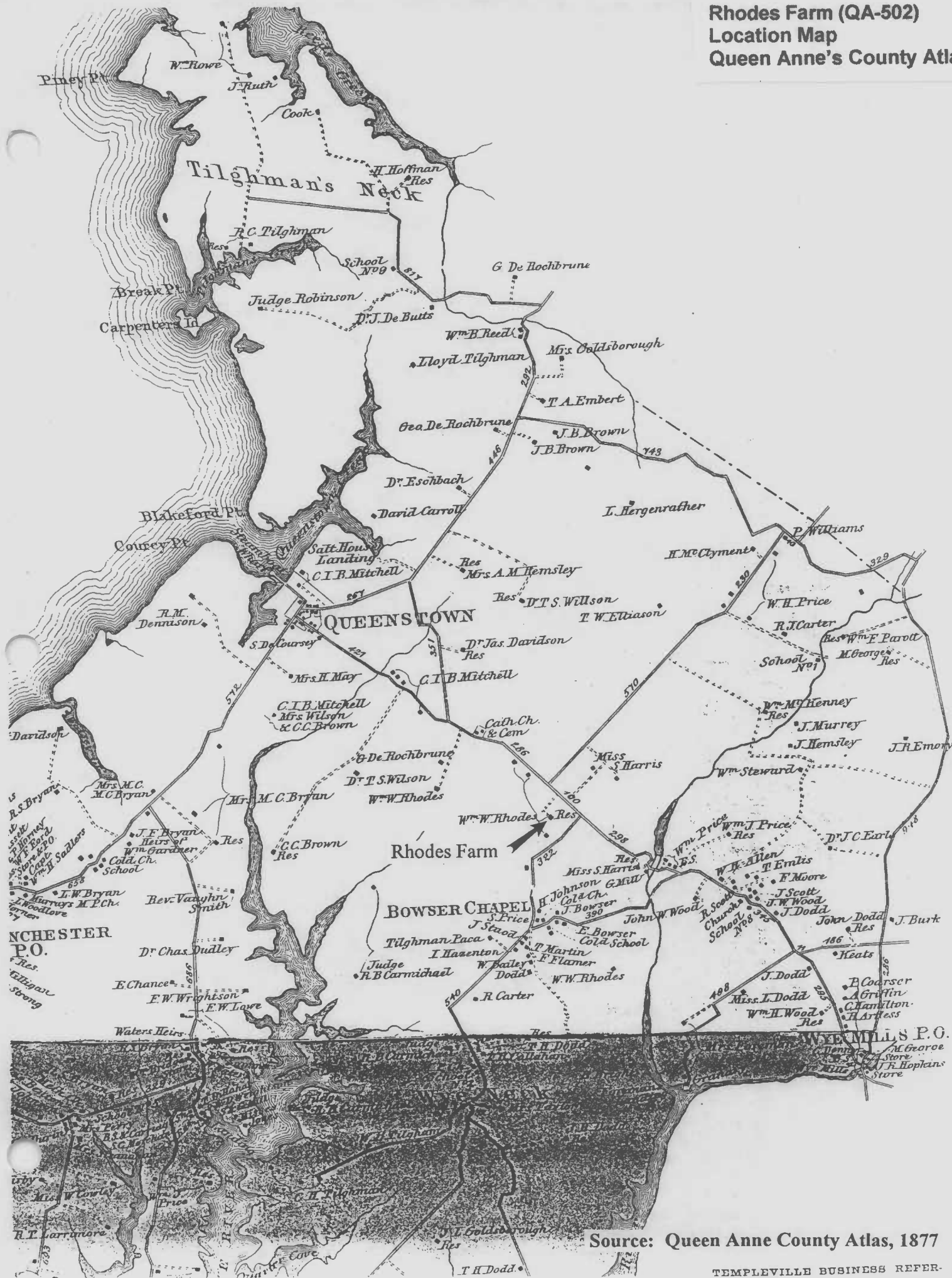
Historic Function(s) and Use(s): Domestic: single dwelling
Subsistence/agricultural outbuildings
(processing, storage, animal facility)

Known Design Source: None

QA-502
RHODES FARM
QUEENSTOWN
QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY
SITE PLAN



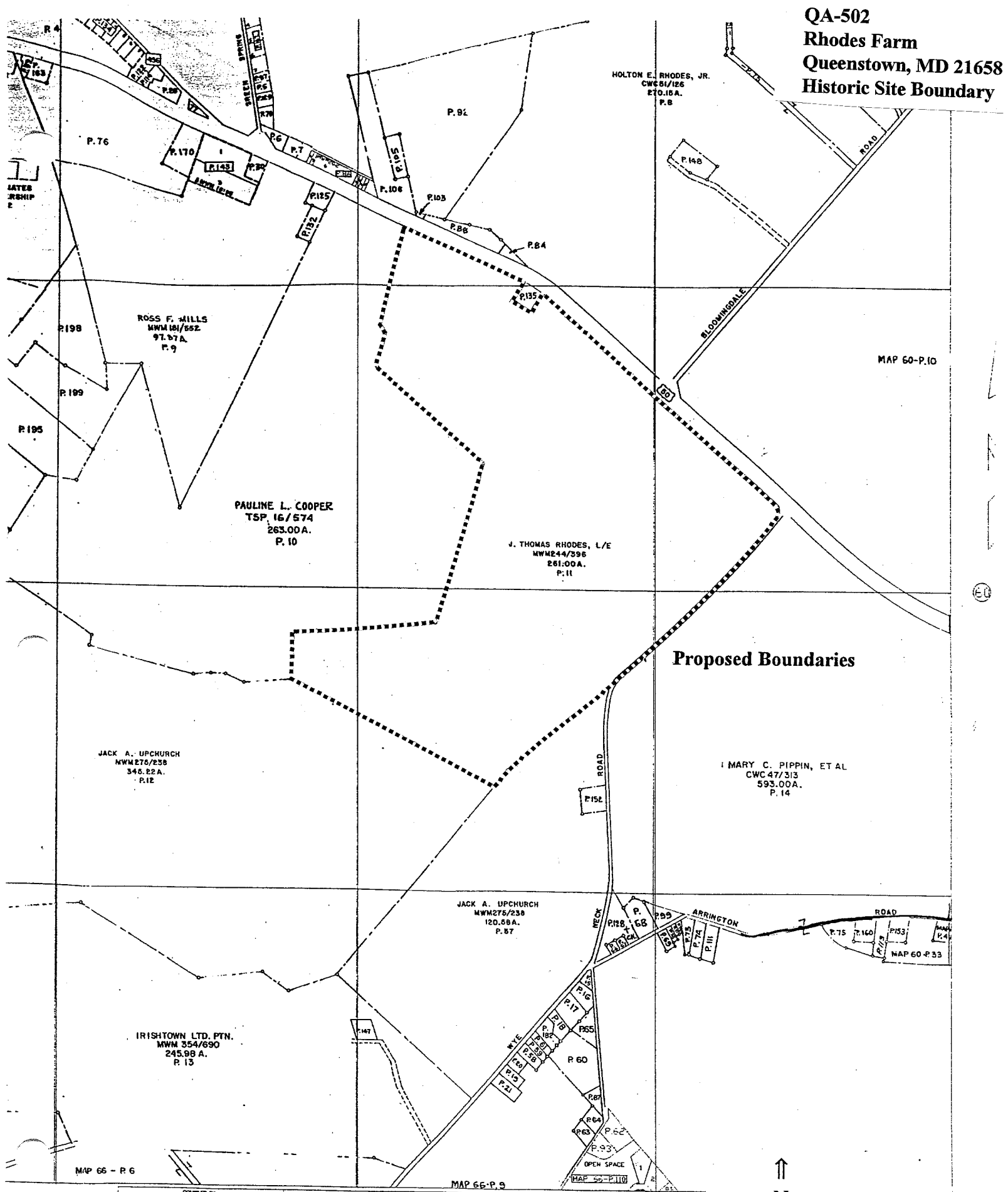
Rhodes Farm (QA-502)
Location Map
Queen Anne's County Atlas



Source: Queen Anne County Atlas, 1877

TEMPLEVILLE BUSINESS REFER.

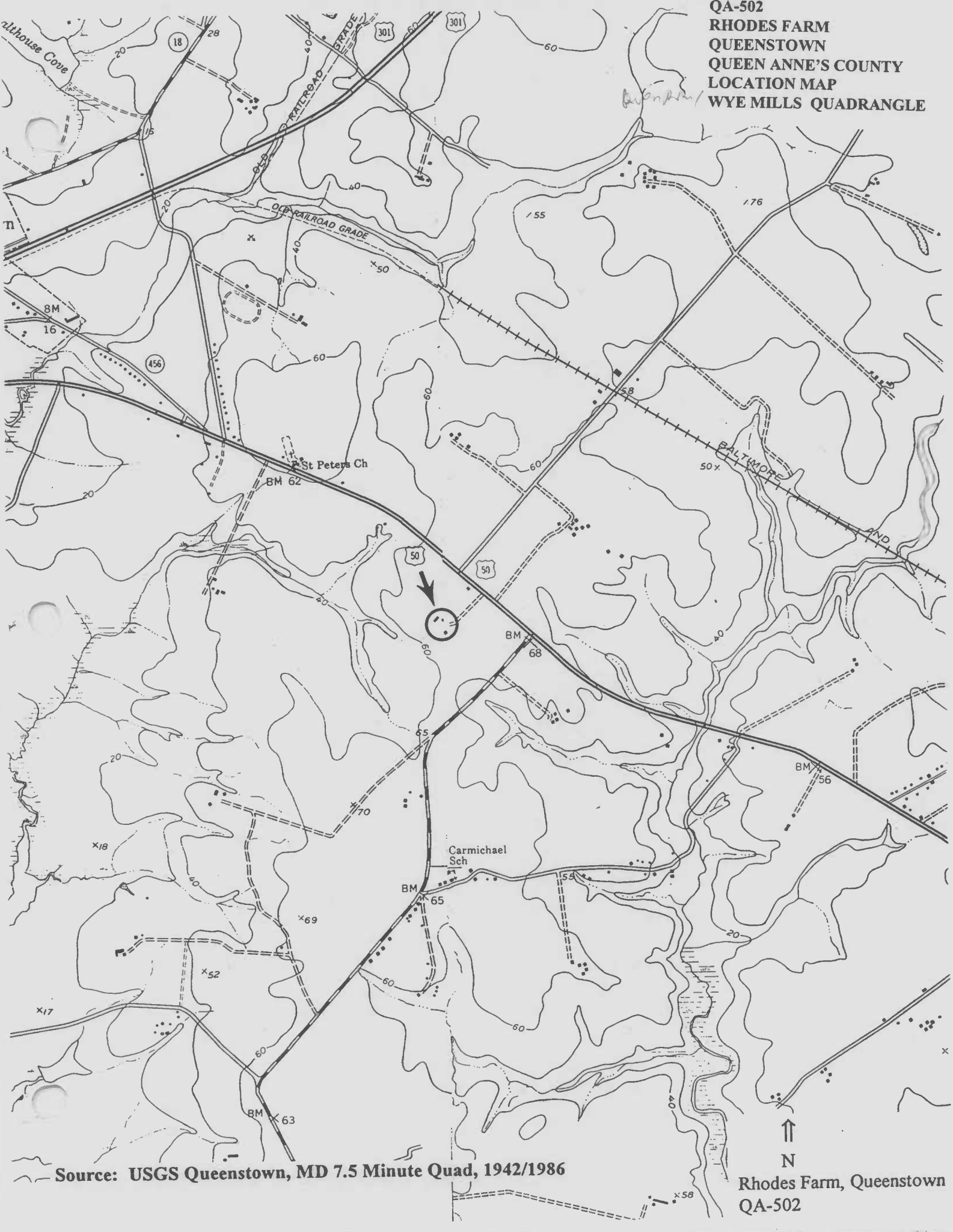
QA-502
Rhodes Farm
Queenstown, MD 21658
Historic Site Boundary



Source: Department of Assessments and Taxation, 1992

↑
 N
 Rhodes Farm, Queenstown
 QA-502

QA-502
RHODES FARM
QUEENSTOWN
QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY
LOCATION MAP
WYE MILLS QUADRANGLE



Source: USGS Queenstown, MD 7.5 Minute Quad, 1942/1986

↑
N
Rhodes Farm, Queenstown
QA-502



QA-502

Rhodes Farm

Queen Anne's County, MD

Rita Suffness

10-29-97

MD SHPO

View of house + outbuildings, looking south from U.S. Rte 50

1 of 10



QA-502

Rhodes Farm

Queen Anne's County, MD

Rita Suffness

10-29-97

MD S4P0

Main house, northeast corner

2 of 10



QA-502

Rhodes Farm

Queen Anne's County, MD

Rita Suffness

10-29-97

HD SHPO

Main House & rear wing, north west corner

3 of 10



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Rhodes Farm

Queen Anne's County, MD

Pita Suffness

10-29-97

MD SHPO

Main block & wing, southeast corner 4 of 10



QA - 502

Rhodes Farm
Queen Anne's County, MD

Wita Suffness

10-29-97

MD SHPO

Southwest corner of rear wing 5 of 10



QA-502

Rhodes Farm
Queen Anne's County, MD
Pita Suffness
10-29-97

MD SHPO

Modern shed - removed prior to 1/13/1992 6 of 10



QA-502

Rhodes Farm

Queen Anne's County, MD

Rita Suffness

10-29-97

MD SHPO

Smaller bird carcass, looking southwest

7 of 10



QA-502

Rhodes Farm

Queen Anne's County, MD

Rita Suffness

10-29-97

MD SHPO

Smokehouse, looking south east

8 of 10



QA-502

Rhodes Farm

Queen Anne's County, MD

Rita Suffness

10-29-97

MD SHPO

Large modern shed, looking northwest

4P of 10



QA - 502

Rhodes Farm

Queen Anne's County, MD

Rita Suffness

10-29-97

MD SHPO

Larger barn, looking west

10 of 10